

## GOVERNANCE

**Date for review: July 2022**

**Applicable to: Public**

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### 1. Introduction

New Spring Trust (NST) is the Charity which incorporates Littleway Healing Ministries, now called Littleway (LW), a Holy Spirit-led ministry rooted in the Catholic Church.

Our Vision Statement is 'Freedom through Jesus'.

### 2. Governance

Littleway was established in 2000 and registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee in July 2012, called New Spring Trust, (NST).

The Charity is governed by a Board Trustees who meet regularly throughout the year. Our trustees have a wide range of experience across the charitable, public, private and church sectors. Their backgrounds include, legal practice, accountancy, roles within the Catholic Church, medical, architecture, training and safeguarding.

Littleway, NST is currently led by a CEO, Mrs Helen Callaghan and deputy CEO Mrs Lucy Walker. Together with the Council, Trustees and organisational team they have worked with the founders Fr Laurence Brassill O.S.A and Mrs Pauline Edwards to lead the charity through a period of change and growth over the last 9 years.

The main role of the Council is to oversee and advise on the spiritual formation and theological issues that arise.

The members of the Council are:

- Rev Tony Schmitz
- Rev Laurence Brassill OSA
- Mrs Pauline Edwards
- Mrs Maureen Mui

Helen Callaghan and Lucy Walker are standardly invited to attend Council meetings.

### 3. Organisation

The organisation to support Littleway and New Spring is flat with minimal hierarchical structures. A CEO leads an organisational team, including a Deputy CEO, part-time administrator, Safeguarding Lead (safeguarding team), Financial coordinator, Communications coordinator, IT coordinator, and Parish Mission coordinator. There are Regional coordinators, each with a deputy and an assistant coordinator in many parts of the UK. As the Ministry has developed, International Regional coordinators have been appointed in those countries. These are currently, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Ireland.

#### **4. Safeguarding**

Safeguarding is an important priority for us. We work within the safeguarding guidelines of the Catholic Church. We have a safeguarding lead and team. The Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service, (CSAS), have looked at the roles in Littleway and our contact with people and have advised that those praying are required to hold a basic DBS. Accordingly our members currently obtain the basic DBS for our Ministry, besides many also holding enhanced DBS for their parish work. We are in regular consultation with CSAS.

#### **5. Littleway Ministries - Who are we and what do we do?**

Littleway is a new movement in the Church. Our mission is the New Evangelization called for by the Church in our day. Our ministry arises from a particular charism (gift of the Holy Spirit) that is a Holy Spirit-led Prayer for the Healing of Memories. This testifies to the action of the Risen Lord present in the midst of His Church, working through those who pray in His Name, thereby contributing to the healing of the whole person. We run Healing of Memory Foundation Courses and over the years have developed further evangelisation opportunities for people. For example, Outreach Days, Healing Events, and Parish Healing Missions.

Littleway feels called to help parishes develop their own healing ministry. This then becomes a powerful and permanent witness to the Lordship of Jesus.

Through their testifying to the Lord's work of healing in their lives those healed draw others to their Lord and Saviour: Jesus is alive and continues his work as divine Physician.

#### **6. New Spring - Community**

Littleway is the gathering together of those who feel drawn to devote their lives more fully to the Risen Lord and each other, through the exercise of this particular Way of Healing Prayer; a ministry that is charismatic and Christ-centred. By seeking to draw all into an ever more profound communion with Christ and each other, recognizing and fostering each other's gifts.

The non-residential community that has grown out of this ministry has become known as New Spring.

Different degrees of belonging and involvement continue to develop. Structures to support both the healing ministry itself and community living continue to be developed and formalised. The term "community" is not taken here in the restricted sense of communal living under one roof, nor in the canonical sense of a religious community, but in the sense of a large association animated by a shared community spirit and vision. We are at the early stages of seeking canonical status of being an Association of Christ's Faithful.

## 7. Formation and Training

Those in training and formation are also called to develop their spiritual life and to pray for an increase in charisms that can be used in the Ministry. Our training is both taught and experiential. It is based on sound theological teaching rooted in the teaching of the Catholic Church and Scripture. It aims to offer personal healing to individuals. This may be physical, emotional, spiritual or psychological and aims to equip people to use the prayer for evangelisation to all, churched or unchurched. We spent time in 2017-2018 establishing a formation programme for those in the Ministry. This is being rolled out in the UK and is available for our European Littleway family.

Before people are eligible to pray Littleway Healing of Memories prayer there are several years of ongoing training, development and an emphasis on their own spiritual development.

The initial training is a six-day foundation course, where people receive the Littleway Healing of Memories prayer and begin to learn about it. The week also involves teaching led by some team members. Fr Laurence and Pauline may often be in attendance.

Ongoing training involves attending Gatherings, where there is frequent observation of people practising the prayer. Every training event focuses on aspects of the Littleway prayer.

Those wanting to serve in this ministry are invited, after discernment, to receive ongoing training as team members and to attend other Ministry events where they regularly pray alongside a more experienced person. After a period of training, it may be discerned that the person is now ready to offer, with an experienced prayer partner, Littleway prayer to the public. We are very robust about this and currently, throughout the UK, only 25 people are listed and recognised lead prayer partners, to whom we send people for prayer when they contact our Ministry.

All our courses draw on our understanding of Healing of Memories prayer under the power of the Holy Spirit and we follow the simple way of delivering this training developed by Mrs Pauline Edwards with Fr Laurence Brassill O.S.A. There is overwhelming personal testimony both written and oral of the way in which this particular way of praying for healing works for people. Please see the web-site for the sixth edition of Pauline's book. Audio and kindle book are also available. Testimonies are both in the book and on the website.

## **8. New Spring - links to Rome**

New Spring, with other new communities and movements, is a sign of the new outpourings of the Holy Spirit, the authentic fruit of the Second Vatican Council, a new Pentecost. "In recent decades, movements and communities have come to birth in which the power of the Gospel is keenly felt. ... Suddenly here was something nobody had planned on. The Holy Spirit had, so to say, spoken up for himself again ... the faith was surging up in its entirety, with no ifs and buts, but no excuses or way out, experienced as a favour and as a precious life-giving gift" (Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI). Pope Francis continues to urge the new movements and communities to play their key role in the new evangelisation. Littleway attended the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Rome and are pursuing both their CHARIS registration and becoming an Association of Christ's Faithful.

## **9. Companions**

There are now over forty people who have decided to make a life commitment to the Ministry. Thirty other people have committed amounts from one year to five. There are opportunities throughout the year for retreat time with Fr Laurence, Pauline Edwards and other invited speakers. A two-day retreat for all the Companions is held annually.

## **10. Patronage**

The ministry and community are under the heavenly patronage of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God and Mother of Christians, St Joseph, St Augustine and St Monica, St Therese of Liseux, St Cuthbert, St Wilfrid, St Josephine Bakhita, Sts Louis and Zelig Martin, Blessed William Marsden, Blessed Robert Anderton and Servant of God Marthe Robin.

## **11. Data and systems**

We undertook the work needed in May 2018 for GDPR and are fully GDPR compliant.

## 12. Income and Expenditure

Income associated with the Ministry has come from a mixture of monthly pledges, donations and course income. The course teams pay for themselves on the courses and events as part of their ongoing training and development. Some courses are more subsidised when necessary. Funds are set aside for our International Centre and for the organisational costs which we strive to keep to a minimum. Having paid for all their expenses for many years we now try and cover some of the Ministry costs for Fr Laurence Brassill and Mrs Pauline Edwards but they receive no remuneration for their work. We are also very thankful to the Augustinian Community for allowing Fr Laurence to give so much time to the Ministry.

For further information please contact:

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